GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:65
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008
ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE YOUTH TO JOIN THE ARMED FORCES
Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar;Singh Baba Shri K.C.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cadets in National Defence Academy, Kharakwasla and Indian Military Academy, Dehradun has gone down during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to encourage the youths to join the Armed Forces?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.65 FOR ANSWER ON 3.3.2008

The number of cadets joining National Defence Academy (NDA), Khadakwasla, and Indian Military Academy (IMA), Dehradun during the last three years has been fluctuating which cannot be attributed to any specific factor. The details are as follows:-

	2005	2006	2007
NDA	596	667	649
IMA	422	479	387

The Armed Forces are making a conscious effort to inspire the youth to choose the services as a career option with wide ranging publicity through print and electronic media aimed at familiarising and relating the opportunities available with the aspirations of the youth. In addition to this, the National Cadet Corps with an authorized strength of thirteen lakh cadets is doing yeoman service in attracting the youth towards the Armed Forces by focusing on the high values of military traditions as part of its training curriculum. Besides, the 22 Sainik Schools, 5 Rashtriya Military Schools and the Rashtriya Indian Military College act as feeder institutions to the Armed Forces by preparing the boys academically, temperamentally and physically for entry into the National Defence Academy. Further, measures like introduction of a technical entry scheme after 10+2 in the Army and Navy, increasing the quota of short service commission officers, selection of competent Junior Commissioned and Non-Commissioned officers to a commissioned rank and improvements in promotional avenues and service conditions are expected to provide thrust to the efforts to attract more talent towards the Armed Forces.